

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: ALLTEL COMMUNICATIONS, INC., AND 360° LONG DISTANCE, INC.	DOCKET NO. WRU-00-71-3291
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ORDER GRANTING WAIVER

(Issued November 9, 2000)

On October 10, 2000, ALLTEL Communications, Inc. (ACI), and 360° Long Distance, Inc. (360LD) (Joint Applicants), filed with the Utilities Board (Board) a request for a waiver of 199 IAC 22.23(2). The subrule requires individual customer verification to change the customer's local or long distance provider. ACI states that it does not currently provide any telecommunications service in Iowa. 360LD states that it provides deregulated long distance telecommunications service in Iowa. Both companies are wholly-owned subsidiaries of ALLTEL Corporation, and 360LD is doing business in Iowa as "ALLTEL" and all customer contact is currently with ALLTEL representatives.

The request indicates that effective December 31, 2000, 360LD will be merged into ACI as part of an internal restructuring. Joint Applicants assert that the restructuring will have no effect on 360LD's customers and no rates will be changed upon the merger into ACI. Joint Applicants request that the subrule be waived for customers of 360LD who will be transferred to ACI.

Joint Applicants state that they are not aware of any person who would be adversely affected by the waiver and state that the waiver is similar to waivers previously granted by the Board.

The Board finds that the waiver request should be granted. The waiver is similar to the waiver granted in Docket No. SPU-99-29, when GTE Midwest Incorporated was purchased by Iowa Telecommunications Services, Inc., d/b/a Iowa Telecom. In that docket, the Board found that it would be undue hardship to obtain the individual waivers.

The verification rules are intended to prevent the unauthorized change of long distance service, where the acquiring company has no business relationship to the current provider and the change is to acquire customers fraudulently. In this instance, ACI and 360LD are affiliates and the transfer is designed to better align corporate structures. The transfer should be seamless to the affected customers since the rates will remain unchanged and 360LD is currently operating as ALLTEL. The Board finds under these circumstances there is good cause to waive the provisions of 199 IAC 22.23(2).

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

The request for waiver of 199 IAC 22.23(2) by ALLTEL Communications, Inc., and 360° Long Distance, Inc., filed on October 10, 2000, to allow the transfer of

customers from 360° Long Distance to ALLTEL Communications, Inc., without customer verification, is granted.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Allan T. Thoms

/s/ Susan J. Frye

ATTEST:

/s/ Raymond K. Vawter, Jr.
Executive Secretary

/s/ Diane Munns

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 9th day of November, 2000.